

White-fronted Goose (*Anser albifrons*). It was alone and perched on a low stump just above the water. Although the bird was about ½ mile away, it was easily identified with a 20X spotting scope. Its pink bill and vertical stripe behind it were easily visible. Also noted were the orange legs, the white flank stripe, and the gray-brown color of the head, neck and back. The black breast blotches were not seen well because of the distance, and the goose seemed darker around the belly than the birds pictured in the field guides. The goose was also seen on the afternoons of 1 through 3 March by Robert J. Hader, Mike Browne, Gilbert Grant, and others.

We have no knowledge of captive or domestic White-fronted Geese in the Raleigh area. Several pinioned White-fronted Geese were kept in the Wendell-Zebulon area a few years ago. However, they had been moved to Wilson, N.C., well prior to this sighting. This, coupled with the short stay of the goose in the area, makes it appear that the observation was of a wild bird. The first published record of the White-fronted Goose in Wake County, this is one of few inland records for North Carolina.

[Since waterfowl are so commonly kept in captivity, extralimital records must always be suspect. However, the group is also very mobile and apparently authentic records of strays are relatively common. Thus while records such as the above are always very exciting, it must be recognized that there is always the possibility that the bird represents an escape from a captive flock.—DEPT. ED.]

An Unrecorded Specimen Of the King Eider from North Carolina

MARCUS B. SIMPSON JR.

P. O. Box 167, Statesville, N. C.

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Pearson, Brimley, and Brimley (*Birds of North Carolina*, 1959) list but four occasions when the King Eider (*Somateria spectabilis*) has been reported in North Carolina; and a check through volumes 21-33 of the *Chat* reveals no subsequent observations. In addition to the 6 specimens taken during the flight of December 1908, individuals were collected along the coast on 1 December 1921, 14 December 1924, and in November 1936.

During July 1969, while examining the Anatidae collection of the American Museum of Natural History in New York City, I located an adult female King Eider taken on 3 January 1925 at Manteo, N. C. The specimen, which was collected by J. H. Hickson, is catalogued as AMNH No. 750003; and so far as I am aware, has not been previously reported in the literature.

I also examined the specimen which Pearson and the Brimleys stated was collected on 14 December 1924, and the date appears to be in error. The bird was actually collected on 10 December 1924, but it was received at the Museum on 14 December. The date was erroneously reported to the Brimleys and subsequently included in the 1942 edition of *Birds of North Carolina*.

Sooty Tern and Audubon's Shearwaters Off North Carolina in September

MIKE M. BROWNE

2728 Cambridge Road, Raleigh, N.C.

GILBERT S. GRANT

Route 1, Box 363, Sneads Ferry, N.C.

We departed from Morehead City, N.C., aboard the *Captain Stacy* for the Gulf Stream on 7 September 1969 to study pelagic birds. We traveled parallel to Shackleford Island